(c) what steps are being taken by DCGI office to prevent these MNCs from making Indian Public the Guinea Pigs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) While Lower cost may be one of the reasons, India provides unique opportunity for quality clinical research also due to availability of expert clinicians and biomedical scientists, state of art medical institutions, large pool of patients, different agro-climatic zones and disease profiles etc.

(b) and (c) Multinational companies (MNC) like Pfizer, Astra —Zeneca, Quintiles, Glaxo-Smith Kline, Eli-Lilly, Sanofi-Aventis etc. filed applications for global clinical trial because of reasons stated in Part (a). There are no instances of Global Pharma Companies treating India as convenient laboratory for testing their drugs and using Indians as unsuspecting guinea pigs. All clinical trials are required to be conducted as per norms prescribed under Drugs and Cosmetics Rules. For every trial, approval is also to be taken from Ethics Committee of the concerned Institution.

Further, the Ministry has amended the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules to strengthen the norms for undertaking clinical trial in the country so that the safety of the patients and ethics are strictly followed. This includes, publication of Good Clinical Practices (GCP) guidelines, revision of Schedule-Y to Drugs & Consmetics Rules & publication of ICMR's "Ethical Guidelines for Biomedical Research on Human Subjects".

New Registration System for Hospitals

3960. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to implement a new registration system for the hospitals;

(b) whether Government are also considering to set up committees at the district, State and National Levels to monitor the functioning of hospitals; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Government

of India is in the process of formulating a Bill prescribing minimum standards and specifications for hospitals, nursing homes and other clinical establishments to ensure quality health care services. The proposed bill would lay down norms of assessment, accreditation, inspection, certification, regulation of such clinical establishments as well as maintenance of records.

Shifting of CGHS Dispensary

3961. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of beneficiaries registered with CGHS dispensary No. 74 at B-1, Janakpuri, New Delhi when it was set up and as on date giving the pace of increase;

(b) whether the matter of shifting this dispensary to a bigger rented/own building has been under Government's consideration; if so, since when and the progress of action during the past 3-5 years;

(c) whether Government have formulated any definite line of action; if so, the details; and

(d) the time-frame for its accomplishment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The CGHS dispensary No. 74, Janakpuri, was opened in June 1981 and functioned from a private rented building.

As per records that are available in the above dispensary, the number of CGHS beneficiaries registered at the dispensary during the last five years are as under:-

Year	Number of cardholders	Number of beneficiaries
2000	5420	17489
2001	5621	18043
2002	5852	18506
2003	6124	19006
2004	6472	19958